

PBSUCCESS - RYBAT

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12 JAN 1954

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Source Cryptonym: Stephen R. LUGTON References:

Source, Operational Data, and Comments:

Source: [] from SLEEKER who obtains verbatim copies of the weekly reports sent by courier to PGT headquarters by communist party agents in Honduras and Salvador.

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

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Subject: Miscellaneous Communist
Activities

Report No: HGG-415

Date of Information: 23 December 1953 -
8 January 1954

Place Acquired: Guatemala City

Date Acquired: 8 January 1954

Evaluation: As indicated

Date of Report: 12 January 1954

Source: Individuals with excellent contacts in the Partido Guatemalteco del Trabajo (PGT-Communist).

1. It has been observed that leaders of the Partido Guatemalteco del Trabajo (PGT) seem quite worried over the number of resignations of cell leaders in the various departments throughout the country. Party leaders blame this on increased anti-Communist activity on the part of priests who have been very active throughout the country in denouncing Communist doctrines as non-Christian. (C-3)
2. It has been learned that Miguel Angel CEA and José Inocente GUERRERO (possibly GUTIERREZ) have reached PGT headquarters after having escaped from prison in San Salvador. (C-3)
3. Justino AMADEO Gudiel, Guatemalan communist party agent in San Salvador, sent a weekly report dated 12 December 1953 to the Secretary General of the PGT (José Manuel FORTUNY) in Guatemala. In part, it stated that the Salvadoran government was furious over the escape accomplished by comrades José Inocente GUTIERREZ, Miguel Angel CEA and Juan Antonio DIAZ and is making reprisals against individuals who had no part in the escape. It stated that there was disappointment that the escape had not taken place at nightfall as planned but added that an opportunity had arisen and the prisoners had taken advantage of it. According to the report, the whole city was aware that something was happening because of the noise made by police patrol cars going out to cover the highways. Then it was learned that some political prisoners had escaped but their identities were not known until the arrival of comrade CUESTA de Leon who reported that the friends had accomplished their objective. At 6 o'clock that afternoon it was rumored that they had been recaptured but this was done only to protect the police whom the press had attacked for not guarding the prisoners more carefully. (C-3)
4. In his weekly report, dated 19 December 1953, to the Secretary General of the PGT, Justino AMADEO Gudiel, Guatemalan communist party agent in Salvador, stated that in the telegram he had just sent the Secretary General stating that the trucks to pick up the vegetables had left the country he was referring to the comrades.

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who had escaped. He then stated that in the same telegram he had asked for a separate part for another truck and that this referred to comrade David IBARRA Sayos who had not yet been sent and who was urgently needed.

(C-3)

5. In his weekly report to the Secretary General of the PGT in Guatemala dated 19 December 1953, Justino AMADEO Gudiel, Guatemalan communist party agent in San Salvador, stated that during the week ending on that date there had been many arrests of members of labor syndicates, both in San Salvador and the departments, who were not affiliated with the communist party but who had been classified as Communists and detained because they had backed the "peace" movement. (C-3)
6. In his weekly report to the Secretary General of the PGT in Guatemala dated 19 December 1953, Justino AMADEO Gudiel, Communist agent in Salvador, stated that on 17 December 1953 comrade Arnulfo SOLARES Cornejo had been seriously wounded in Santa Ana. According to AMADEO, it happened at approximately 8 o'clock in the evening in a restaurant where SOLARES was conversing with various friends on the true nature of communism. At the next table there were two or three unknown individuals, one of whom got up and hit SOLARES who, since he was armed, pulled out his pistol to fire at his attacker. He was not able to fire because his attacker rapidly disarmed him and shot him twice in the thorax with the same gun. It is considered probable that these individuals were from the police since they quietly walked out of the place and the owners of the establishment state that they were never arrested. (C-3)
7. In his weekly report to the Secretary General of the PGT in Guatemala dated 19 December 1953, Justino AMADEO Gudiel, Communist agent in Salvador, stated that a thorough search of the home of Don Melquides ARRIVILLAGA had been made on 17 December 1953 at 9 o'clock in the evening. Nothing was found but the searchers were probably looking for communist propaganda or some of the comrades since two of them had been living there until their departure some two months ago because of the same type of searches. (C-3)
8. Juan DUCOUDRAY, communist party agent in Honduras, sent a report dated 19 December 1953 to the Secretary General of the PGT in Guatemala. Under the title "Surveillance" he stated that the charges (the Guatemalan exiles) were enjoying, together with exiles from other countries, complete freedom since they met frequently in the offices or homes of high officials of the United Fruit Company. He stated that these meetings take place during the day and also at night. He added that as yet nothing had been learned as to the object of these meetings but that everything was being done in order to find out.

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9. At 10:00 on the night of 24 December 1953 Jaime DIAZ Rozzotto entered PGT headquarters. He appeared to be slightly drunk and announced to his "comrades" that he had something important to say. He went on to state that President ARBENZ had received information to the effect that modern armament in considerable quantities had passed from Honduras to Salvador and that the intermediary for the U.S., where the arms originated, was Lic. Ramiro FLORES Cobar. He said that this confirmed past reports that some trucks on the roads of the port of Tela were actually loaded with arms. He mentioned that it would be wise for the Chief of the Armed Forces to make some changes in the heads of border outposts because that is where things can start and that these persons should be changed frequently so that they do not become friendly and allow themselves to be bought off, adding that up to the time he spoke all of the military men were "with us." (C-3)
10. In his weekly report to the Secretary General of the PGT in Guatemala, dated 27 December 1953, Justino AMADEO GUDIEL, Guatemalan communist party agent in Salvador, stated that in message No. 18 received by him the writer states that arms are passing over the border from Honduras. AMADEO said that he could neither confirm nor deny this report but mentioned that he had already reported that several trucks had arrived from Tela in Honduras and that their cargo was delivered to several commercial establishments in San Salvador. He stated that the outstanding fact concerning the shipments was that they were not unloaded on the street but brought inside the buildings. He concluded by saying that this had not been noted recently but that conditions made it very difficult to operate covertly.
11. Juan DUCOUDRAY, Guatemalan communist party agent in Honduras sent a report, dated 26 December 1953, to the Secretary General of the PGT in Guatemala. Under the heading "Transportation" he stated that during the last few weeks no information had been obtained concerning the departure of trucks carrying the type of merchandise mentioned in message No. 1851. He agreed that activities had been curtailed but stated that this type of merchandise is well known and that although it had not been possible to check bundles or boxes, information concerning such a shipment would become known due to the size and shape of the cartons unless they were transported through official channels or in official vehicles since it is impossible to even get near such channels. He concluded by stating that such is possible but that he was not sure. Under the heading "Surveillance" he stated that his group had been very active in trying to follow the movements of exiles but that nothing further had been done than to establish that their relations are always with commercial firms or individuals and that they visit the homes of high officials of the United Fruit Company at night. He added that such places are being watched most carefully because those people are the ones who could most easily obtain the merchandise mentioned in the note.

(Case officer's note: To the best of the case officer's knowledge, no member of the exile group has visited homes of United Fruit

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Company executives during the past month.)

Under the heading "Ports" he stated that efforts had been made to gain friends in the ports in order to ascertain whether or not any of the merchandise mentioned was brought in as contraband rather than through customs channels. He said that men had been working day and night with completely negative results to date. (C-3)

12. In a weekly report to the Secretary General of the PGT in Guatemala, dated 2 January 1954, Justino AMADEO Gudiel, Guatemalan communist party agent in Salvador, stated that Arnulfo SALAS S., an outstanding leader of the barbers' union residing in El Salvador, had been taken from his own home during the night of 31 December 1953 and accused of distributing Communist propaganda within his union. He said that this individual is not connected with "our" group and that the arrest had probably been made on the basis of a denunciation apparently made for personal reasons. He added that although no information had been developed proving his guilt, he was still in jail. (C-3)